

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 086810
ORIGIN SS-25

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EUR/SOV:GARY MATTHEWS
S/S:O - L.FLEISCHER

-----112972 050051Z /15

P 042308Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 086810

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UR, US, PARM, MPOL

SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR HELSINKI

REFERENCE: MOSCOW 06666

1. MENDELEVICH'S SUGGESTION FOR MEETINGS ARE VERY CLOSE
TO OUR OWN PREFERENCES. GELB IS AGREEABLE TO:

-- FIRST MEETING, HEADS OF DELEGATIONS, AT SOVIET EMBASSY,
MAY 3RD, 6 P.M.

-- PLENARY SESSIONS ON MAY 4, 5, 6 AND 8, ALTERNATING
EMBASSIES PER MENDELEVICH'S SUGGESTION. (NOTE: US WISHES
TO MEET ON SATURDAY AND NOT ON TUESDAY).

-- HOUR FOR PLENARY SESSIONS CAN BE LEFT FLEXIBLE, IF
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THERE IS NO DIFFICULTY HOLDING ROOMS OPEN.

-- US-HOSTED LUNCH ON DAY OF OPENING SESSION, AT EMBASSY,
WITH AMBASSADOR HOSTING, IF THIS MEETS WITH EMBASSY
DESIRES.

2. PRESS RELEASE: ENGLISH VERSION OF AGREED TEXT IS,

THE SOVIET UNION AND UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE THEIR CONSULTATIONS IN HELSINKI, FINLAND, BEGINNING MAY 4, 1978, ON ISSUES RELATING TO THE LIMITATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL ARMS TRADE. THE TWO SIDES MET PREVIOUSLY IN WASHINGTON FROM DECEMBER 14 THROUGH DECEMBER 19, 1977 FOR A PRELIMINARY EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THIS TOPIC. AMBASSADOR L. I. MENDELEVICH WILL REPRESENT THE SOVIET SIDE. LESLIE H. GELB, DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF POLITICO-MILITARY AFFAIRS, WILL REPRESENT THE AMERICAN SIDE.

WE HAVE AGREED TO HOLD THE RELEASE UNTIL APRIL 28TH WITH TWO CONDITIONS.

-- THERE WILL PROBABLY BE REFERENCE TO THE HELSINKI ROUND IN AN APRIL 10TH VANCE SPEECH.

-- WE MAY BE UNDER PRESSURE BEFORE APRIL 28TH TO USE THE RELEASE.

IN EITHER CASE, WE WILL CHECK WITH SOVIETS BEFORE RELEASING, SO THAT IT CAN BE DONE SIMULTANEOUSLY. VANCE

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